

Thomas A. Edison Papers Digital Edition

Edison-Miller Family Records

Edison-Ford Winter Estates, Fort Myers, Fla.

[X104W-F] Miller, Mary Valinda

Edison-Miller Family Papers

Title

[X104W-F] Miller, Mary Valinda

Description

These documents consist of three letters by Mary Valinda Miller (1830-1912), the mother of Mina Miller Edison. The first letter, written in April 1897, is addressed to her two youngest sons, John and Theodore, who were both in the senior class at Yale University. The second letter, addressed to her husband Lewis and written during a visit to the Edison home at Glenmont in October 1895, comments that Mina "will try and be contented for a while longer" with her husband's work habits, but "then she wants Thomas to stop a little of his hard work and . . . stay with the Family more." Mary Valinda also mentions Thomas A. Edison, Jr.'s recent trip to Europe to attend the wedding of his sister Marion to Karl Oscar Oeser. The third letter, written in March 1906, is addressed to Mina and Thomas, who were vacationing at Seminole Lodge, their winter home in Fort Myers, Florida. Mary Valinda remarks on the Edisons' "beautiful home" in West Orange and recalls the "beautiful winter" she spent there. In addition, there are comments about Grace Miller and her students at Oak Place School, including Madeleine Edison, who were visiting the Edisons in Florida. Mary Valinda also expresses her hope that John, who had been working for Thomas Edison since 1899, would "cheer up laugh and enjoy life more" and that "Mr. Edison will have patience with . . . him and be a father to him." Also included is a comment about the health of Mary Valinda's son-in-law, Richard P. Marvin, who died three months later.

These letters were added in January 2013.

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Identifier

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Alternative Title

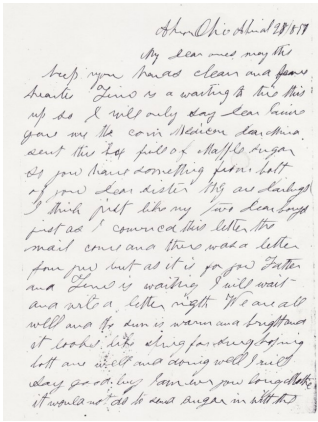
Edison-Miller Family Papers -- Miller, Mary Valinda

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Edison-Miller Family Papers

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[X104WA], Letter from Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller to Theodore Westwood Miller, John Vincent Miller, April 28th, 1897

Title

[X104WA], Letter from Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller to Theodore Westwood Miller, John Vincent Miller, April 28th, 1897

Author

Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Recipient

- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Miller, John Vincent

Mentioned

- Yale University
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Jane Eliza
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Date

1897-04-28

Type

Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- Shipping and materials handling

Folder ID

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Document ID

X104WA

URL

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Timestamp

28 April 1897



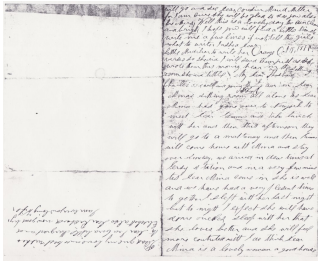
<https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/iiif/2/X104WA/manifest>

Shenandoah 28/8/88

My dear ones may this
keep your hands clean and your
hearts. Lino is waiting to tie this
up so I will only say dear Lino
gave me the corn Medicin dear Anna
sent this box full of maple sugar
so you have something from home
of your dear sister they are darling
I think just like my two dear boys
just as I commenced this letter the
mail came and there was a letter
from you but as it is for your Father
and Lino is waiting I will wait
and write a letter right. We are all
well and the sun is warm and bright and
it looks like spring for our boys
both are well and doing well I will
say good by I am ever your loving sister
it would not do to send sugar in with the

Soaf or I would send you some
but it may be Sean Mura did give
you some while you were there
Gona by,
Love and kisses to both.

O D. What are you a going
to do with your beads when you
leave Collage if you don't want
them you had better bring them to
the Lake they will make good beads
for you there Gona by again,



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[X104WB], Letter from Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller to Lewis Miller, October 18th, 1895

Title

[X104WB], Letter from Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller to Lewis Miller, October 18th, 1895

Author

Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Recipient

Miller, Lewis

Mentioned

- Edison, Charles
- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Miller, John Vincent
- Edison, Thomas Alva, Jr
- Miller, Robert Anderson
- Edison, Madeleine
- Edison, Marion Estelle
- Miller, Jane Eliza
- Oeser, Karl Oscar
- Miller, Grace A
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date

1895-10-18

Type

Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- TAE personality and character
- Travel (TAE and family)
- Education

Folder ID

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X104WB

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Timestamp

18 October 1895



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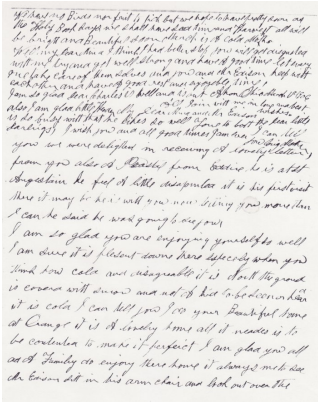
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will go and see dear Cousin Maud Miller
 for I am sure she will be glad to see you also
 the other day. Well this is a lovely day the sun clear
 and bright I hope you will find a little time to
 write me a few lines if not tell the girls
 what to write. I adored dear
 little Maudie to write her Orange Oct 18, 1811.
 verses & she said I will send them just as she
 wrote them this morning hear in the sitting
 room she is a little. My dear husband
 Charles is well and going to I am in dear
 Anna's sitting room all alone as dear
 China had gone over to New York to
 meet dear Emma and take lunch
 with her and then this afternoon they
 will go to a matinee and then Emma
 will come home with China and stay
 over Sunday. we arrived in New York at
 Jersey station and in a very few min-
 utes dear China came in she is well
 and we have had a very pleasant time
 to gether I slept with her last night
 but to night I expect she will have
 some one else sleep with her that
 she loves better and she will feel
 more contented with I do think dear
 China is a lovely woman a good house

I am ever your loving wife
 Elizabeth to dear Richard now good by
 to dear Joe dear little Margaret
 I send you my love and best wishes

keeper every thing is so clean and in good order I do hope she may always have it as she has it now better if she can I am sure she would like if her dear husband could be with her more but she how she did get along so well not being says she will try and be contented for a while able to talk either German or French but no longer then she wants Thomas to stop a little of this hard work and stay at home or stay with the family more and I do hope the dear ones at home how is it with dear he can we will all be together to night that Robins is there any change please let me is Thomas Alva and Thomas and James Parish how soon as there is want you please do when dear John and Theodor were a going to be you see them give them my best wishes and love with no adds but Mina thought not lately I do hope and I am sure dear Maimie and and Sunday would be better all around than Grey will take good care of you but I would this I found a letter waiting for me at home to see you dear soon as you can come dear Minnie and both of the dear boys want so to stay a day or two with us hear try me to come and see them but I think it and take good care of your self and keep well. better for them to come here they are well Please except my love and very best wishes and and doing well, Thomas is very much please give the same to dear Edwin James pleasea with his trip across the great plains and Grey tell them all to try and deep he thinks Marion had a fine husband be good and careful watch I do hope but he was with them so short a time his good luck may be there! Please remember cannot tell very much about him be me to my enquiring friends, I do hope you



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[X104WC], Letter from Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller to Thomas Alva Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, March 15th, 1906

Title
[X104WC], Letter from Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller to Thomas Alva Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, March 15th, 1906

Author
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

Recipient

- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Mentioned

- Seminole Lodge and Fort Myers
- Waymouth, Grace Cromwell
- Oak Place School
- Edison, Charles
- Miller, Theodore Westwood
- Miller, John Vincent
- Miller, Lewis
- Miller, Edward Burkett
- Edison, Madeleine
- Miller, Jane Eliza
- Miller, Grace A
- Marvin, Richard Pratt
- Miller, Mary Emily
- Miller, Margaret

Date
1906-03-15

Type
Letter

Subject

- Edison-Miller family
- TAE personality and character
- Travel
- Education
- Health and medicine

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Timestamp

15 March 1906

We have no Birds nor fruit to pick but we hope to have pretty soon as
the Holy Book days we shall have seed time and Harvest all will
be bright and Beautiful soon. Oh oh is a cold Mother.

Well my dear Nina I think I had better stop now will get disgusted
with me try and get well strong and have a good time let every
one take care of themselves and you and Mr Edison keep with
each other and have a good rest and enjoyable time.

I am so glad dear Charles is well and is out of the Ohio March 1896
also I am glad little ^{My} ^{Dear} ^{thing} ^{and} ^{Mr} ^{Edison} ^{wishes} ^{to} ^{join} ^{with} ^{me} ⁱⁿ ^{long} ^{and} ^{best}
is so busy with that he likes so well I love to best the dear little
darlings, I wish you and all good times I am ever I can tell

you we were delighted in receiving a ^{very} ^{big} ^{letter} ^{from} ^{you} ^{also} ^a ^{letter} ^{from} ^{Eddie} ^{he} ^{is} ^{at} ^{at}
Augustine he feel a little disapointed it is his first visit
there it may be he is with you now being you more than
I can be said he was going to see you.

I am so glad you are enjoying yourself so well
I am sure it is pleasant down there especially when you
think how cold and disagreeable it is North the ground
is covered with snow and not a bird to be seen or hear
it is cold I can tell you I do your Beautiful home
at Orange it is a lovely home all it needs is to
be contented to make it perfect I am glad you all
as a Family do enjoy there home it always me to see
Mr Edison sit in his arm chair and look out over the

Louise he seemed so perfectly contented it does please me for wanting me with you I thank for thinking of me so
to know our learned are pleased with there home and The school wants to go to the Sugar camp but it is so
expensive of dear Husband what is more pleasant or cold they cannot go as yet the school is doing very well
comforting than to know our Husbands are pleased as far as I know it is so quiet the school comes and go
with what we do I never will forget the beautiful and I hardly know any thing about them it is very
winter I had with you and paid all were so very kind still and lonely when there is no school what would
and good to me all the time with you it seemed all felt we do with out the school we would miss it I am sure
anxious to do all they could for me I do thank you and I am glad you like those that are down there with you
yours for the pleasant yet delightful winter at your they all write such beautiful letters about you and
lovely home. I am so glad dear little Charles is better Mr. Edson they think he and every thing around there
I am sorry I have not feeling better do I could write to is just perfect some think they never will get near
you before this but I to have been under the weather of Heaven I agree with you dear Maria about dear Henry
little but now I am well and think will keep well the I do think if he would cheer up laugh and enjoy life
rest of the summer I hope to keep well after being such more he would work better things would come to him
of fine winter I ought to keep well for a long time right he is of darling and I do feel anxious about
I am so glad all are well that are with you and every him I do hope Mr. Edson will have patience with
thing in good order He got very good and cheerful him and best Father to him I do think he misses
words from the different ones that are with you or dear Thoder more and more as we miss you
at the Hotel. Maria is reading your letter to Mrs. Miller dear Father and Salina and Thoder longer the
you tell or write about my coming down I do thank time the more I miss them it some times seems

Love and kisses to all my darlings downe there ^{Please accept}
they must come in they were darlings how ^{thanks for} can we help
missing them. I have just telephoned but to Mr O'Mearney -
^{we are wishing for him}
they say he is better than me & I were out to see him
a few days ago but could not see him then and I
have been under the weather & little over since so I have
not seen him yet but soon as the weather is better we will
go out again, we are all well but I can tell you we are
lonesome no Gracy nor Madeline Margo nor Miss Kargus
we miss all those dear ones I do hope dear Gracy is having
the best time of her life having a good rest and enjoying
every thing as they pass by please give her my very best wishes
and love tell her I will write to her soon I think of her all
the time she is a darling I think I do hope the remainder of
her life may be pleasant and good as this life can be.
I wonder if dear Madeline is willing to come back to Oak
place or would she rather miss the rest of her Father
or what ever she was doing. I do hope she will feel as
though she can stand a few more weeks and will
be with the others when they come time flies fast it will
not be long until all will be together at hard work
but I do hope all will enjoy their work and place.